

35.

Dr. Martin Lessen/  
Professor of Applied Mechanics  
Chairman, Engineering Mechanics Division  
University of Pennsylvania  
Philadelphia 4, Pennsylvania

Dear Mr. Lessen:

Reference is made to your letter of 20 August 1958 to Mr. Allen Dulles in which you requested information on Soviet engineering education programs.

As a result of research carried on specifically in the field of Soviet engineering education programs, two works which deal with your interest have been published. The subject of secondary preparation for engineering training is covered in Nicholas DeWitt's Soviet Professional Manpower - Its Education, Training and Supply (National Science Foundation, Washington, D. C., 1955). For a detailed treatment of Soviet engineering education programs, we would recommend Alexander G. Korol's Soviet Education for Science and Technology (Published jointly by the Technology Press of Massachusetts Institute of Technology and John Wiley and Sons, New York, 1957).

There are also two articles appearing in professional journals which may be helpful. Both of these articles were written by engineers after visiting engineering institutes in the USSR. These are: B. L. Goodlet, "How Mechanical Engineers are Educated in Russia," Engineering, Vol. 181 (February 10, 1956), pp. 134-135. The other article is Dr. Willis Jackson's "Education and Training of Russian Technologists" which appeared in the journal of the Institution of Electrical Engineers, Vol. 2, No. 14 (February 1956), pp. 98-101.

I hope this information will be helpful. The references given are the most detailed and authoritative unclassified sources currently available on the subject of Soviet engineering education programs.

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Sincerely,

*UNIVERSITY of PENNSYLVANIA*  
PHILADELPHIA 4

*The School of Civil Engineering*  
DIVISION OF ENGINEERING MECHANICS

20 August 1958

Mr. Allen Dulles  
Central Intelligence Agency  
Washington D. C.

Dear Mr. Dulles:

I am writing you to obtain certain information with regard to engineering education programs behind the Iron Curtain. As you well know our technical sciences are generally very well advanced indeed, but in some respects, particularly the mechanical sciences, we seem to be lagging. Our educational efforts in these fields are hampered by too much vocationalism instead of a fundamental scientific approach. I am therefore interested in what is being done behind the Iron Curtain in the teaching of such fields as Mechanical Engineering, Civil Engineering and Engineering Mechanics, particularly with respect to unifying the scientific content of these fields, and also with regard to the secondary preparation for such studies.

If such information is available, I would appreciate obtaining it in detail. The professional curricula in these fields is now in a great state of flux in our country so it would therefore be important for us to find out what others are doing.

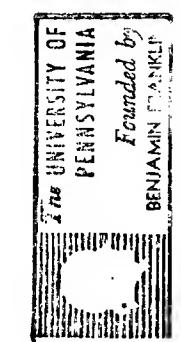
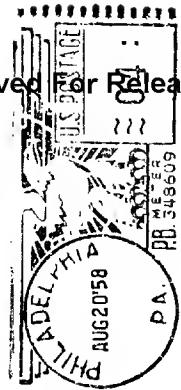
Respectfully yours,

*Martin Lesser*  
Martin Lesser  
Professor of Applied Mechanics  
Chairman, Engineering Mechanics  
Division

ML:ph

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Mr. Allen Dulles  
Central Intelligence Agency  
Washington D. C.

UNIVERSITY of PENNSYLVANIA  
THE SCHOOL OF CIVIL ENGINEERING  
DIVISION OF ENGINEERING MECHANICS  
PHILADELPHIA 4, PA.

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Remarks:

Suggest OSI prepare a direct reply for  
Mr. Amory to sign for Mr. Dulles in response  
to the attached.

1 to 2 For prep. reply for DD/I  
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FROM: NAME, ADDRESS AND PHONE NO.

DATE

21 Aug 58

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